

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of:)
Charles C. Raney et al.) Before the Examiner
Serial No. Unassigned) Unassigned
Filed December 5, 2003)
SAMPLING DEVICES AND) Group Art Unit
METHODS UTILIZING A) Unassigned
HORIZONTAL CAPILLARY) December 5, 2003
TEST STRIP)

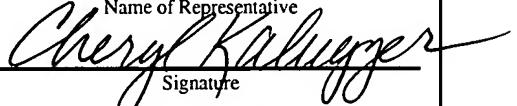
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December 5, 2003

(Date of Deposit)

Cheryl Kalugyer

Name of Representative



Signature

December 5, 2003

Date of Signature

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicant requests consideration of the references listed on attached form PTO-1449 and/or the additional information identified below in paragraph 3. A legible copy of each reference listed on form PTO-1449 is enclosed, except:

[] a copy is not provided for each reference previously cited by or submitted to the Patent Office in prior parent application Serial No. _____ and/or

[X] a copy of each U.S. patent and/or U.S. patent application publication is not provided because the present application has been filed or entered the national stage after June 30, 2003 and the Patent Office has waived the requirements of 37 CFR 1.98 (a)(2)(i) for submitting such documents in applications filed or nationalized after June 30, 2003.

1a. This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

within three months of the filing date (or of entry into the National Stage) of the above-entitled application (other than a continued prosecution application), or

before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits,

and thus no certification and/or fee is required.

1b. This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted after the events of above paragraph 1a and prior to the mailing date of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance, and thus:

(1) the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, **or**

(2) a fee of \$_____ (set forth in 37 CFR §1.17(p)) is enclosed.

1c. This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted: after the mailing date of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance and prior to payment of the issue fee, and thus:

the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, and

a fee of \$_____ (set forth in 37 CFR §1.17(p)) is enclosed.

2. It is hereby certified

a. that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement, or

b. that no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.

c. A copy of a dated communication from a foreign patent office which clearly shows the statement is being submitted within three (3) months of the date on the communication is enclosed.

3. A copy of a Search Report or Written Opinion from a foreign patent office is enclosed.

4. Consideration of the following additional information (including any copending or abandoned U.S. application, prior uses and/or sales, etc.) is requested.

5. For each non-English language reference listed on the attached form PTO-1449, reference is made to:

- a. [] an English language translation submitted herewith,
- b. [] a foreign patent office search report (in the English language) submitted herewith,
- c. [] an English language translation of a foreign patent office search report submitted herewith,
- d. [] the concise explanation contained in the specification of the present application at page^s _____,
- e. [] the concise explanation set forth in the attached English language abstract,
- f. [] a copy of a related patent publication (in the English language) submitted herewith,
- g. [] the concise explanation set forth below:

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in §1.56(b). It is believed that no additional fees are required. Should any other fee be required, however, please charge such fee to Deposit Account No. 23-3030, but not to include any payment of issue fees.

Respectfully Submitted,



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Substituted for form 1449A/PTO				Complete if Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Application Number	
				Filing Date	
				First Named Inventor	RANEY ET AL.
				Group Art Unit	
				Examiner Name	Unassigned
Sheet	1	of	3	Attorney Docket Number	7404-541
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number Number-Kind Code ² (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Application of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		3,092,465	06-04-1963	Adams et al.	
		3,298,789	01-17-1967	Mast	
		3,552,928	01-05-1971	Fetter	
		3,607,093	09-21-1971	Stone	
		3,630,957	12-29-1971	Rey et al.	
		3,802,842	04-09-1974	Lange et al.	
		3,964,871	06-22-1976	Hochstrasser	
		4,059,407	11-22-1977	Hochstrasser	
		4,061,468	12-06-1977	Lange et al.	
		4,477,575	10-16-1984	Vogel et al.	
		4,490,465	12-25-1984	Limbach et al.	
		4,774,192	09-27-1988	Terminiello et al.	
		4,924,879	05-15-1990	O'Brien	
		4,935,346	06-19-1990	Phillips et al.	
		4,994,238	02-19-1991	Daffern et al.	
		5,208,163	05-04-1993	Charlton et al.	
		5,306,623	04-26-1994	Kiser et al.	
		5,418,142	05-23-1995	Kiser et al.	
		5,451,350	09-19-1995	Macho et al.	
		5,456,835	10-10-1995	Castino et al.	
		5,776,719	07-07-1998	Douglas et al.	
		5,824,491	10-20-1998	Priest et al.	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 801.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DON T SEND FEES RC MPLETED F RMS T THIS ADDRESS. SEND T : Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

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Sheet	2	of	3	First Named Inventor	RANEY ET AL.
				Group Art Unit	
				Examiner Name	Unassigned
				Attorney Docket Number	7404-541
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Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number Number-Kind Code ² (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Application of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		5,857,983	01-12-1999	Douglas et al.	
		5,879,311	03-09-1999	Duchon et al.	
		5,951,492	09-14-1999	Douglas et al.	
		5,951,493	09-14-1999	Douglas et al.	
		5,962,215	10-05-1999	Douglas et al.	
		5,964,718	10-12-1999	Duchon et al.	
		6,015,392	01-18-2000	Douglas et al.	
		6,048,352	04-11-2000	Douglas et al.	
		6,066,103	05-23-2000	Duchon et al.	
		6,086,545	07-11-2000	Roe et al.	
		6,099,484	08-08-2000	Douglas et al.	
		6,183,489	B1	02-06-2001	Douglas et al.
		6,332,871	B1	12-25-2001	Douglas et al.
		Re 35,803		05-19-1998	Lange et al.

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		WO 00/40150	07-13-2000			
		WO 98/24366	06-11-1998			

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